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13 November 1956

Chief, Support Staff

ATTN : [redacted] 25X1A9a

Chief, Materials Division

Processing of Hong Kong-Chinese Trade Material

1. Relative to your request for information concerning the referenced NSA effort, it has been determined that the current [redacted] quarterly publications containing information on trade between Hong Kong and Communist China have been of particular interest to the Chemicals Branch. 25X1D1a

2. The Chemicals Branch has noted the decrease in Hong Kong information on trade in chemicals with China. It is believed that this decrease does not result from a deterioration in collateral reporting but rather from the fact that chemicals are increasingly moving to Chinese ports via more direct routes, thus eliminating Hong Kong as a source of reporting. For this reason it is the Chemical Branches opinion that since the need for the information continues, it would be preferable to see a continuation of the [redacted] effort in this field but that the focal point of such effort be gradually shifted from Hong Kong to Chinese ports further north, in particular to Shanghai. 25X1D1a

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